Employment against sports quota

528. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Subhash Dixit who captained Indian team to win below fifteen World Cup 2000, jumped to death from 6th floor of a building in Kanpur on 9th June, 2007 due to poverty and unemployment;

(b) if so, the reasons he was not given any scholarship or employment against sports quota; and

(c) the steps Government and BCCI propose to take for welfare of sportspersons/cricketers?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The Ministry has no independent information in this regard. BCCI have informed the Ministry that they came to know through media reports that Shri Subash Dixit, who was Captain of India Under-15 team for the World Cup-2000, had committed suicide by jumping from the 6th floor of a building in Kanpur. This was confirmed to BCCI by the Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association, Kanpur. BCCI have also informed the Ministry that it has a scheme for retired test and first class cricketers to whom monthly gratis is given depending on the number of first class matches a player had played. Shri Subash Dixit did not qualify for the benevolent funds scheme.

Encouragement to sports

529. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are not encouraging other sports compared to cricket in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the present position thereof;

(d) the amount allocated and spent under each category of sports during the last three years in the country, State-wise; and

(e) the steps Government are taking to encourage each and every sport in the country within a specific time-frame to achieve gold medals in world level competitions?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have been encouraging all sports disciplines in the country by giving financial assistance to recognized National Sports Federations. BCCI which is promoting the sports of Cricket however has never applied for financial assistance under the Scheme of the Ministry. Under the Scheme, the Ministry is providing financial assistance for participation in International Tournaments abroad, organizing International Tournaments in India, National Championships in India, Coaching Camps, engagement of foreign coaches, procurement of equipments etc. The financial assistance provided to various recognized National Sports Federations during the last 3 years is given in the Statement *(See* below), which excludes expenditure incurred towards National Coaching Camps and the engagement of foreign coaches, which is implemented through the Sports Authority of India.

(e) To encourage various sports and games in the country, financial assistance is given to promising sportspersons for training and training-cum-competitions in India: and abroad,